

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
EA-10 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 /118 W
-----075485 132003Z /72

R 131001Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1687
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION NATO

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USEEC, OECD AND EMBASSIES

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, SP
SUBJECT: MORE ON POSSIBLE UGT-USO MERGER

1. OVER SEPTEMBER 10-11 WEEKEND, CONFEDERAL SECRETARIAT
OF INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST USO MET IN APPARENTLY STORMY
SESSION TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE MERGER WITH THE SOCIALIST UGT.
RESULT WAS WALKOUT OF 11 ANTI-MERGER MEMBERS LATE SEPT.
10, LEAVING 12 BASCIALLY PRO-MERGER MEMBERS TO ISSUE
COMMUNIQUE A) REJECTING DEMANDS FROM VARIOUS USO PROVINCIAL
GROUPS THAT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (MAJORITY OF WHICH FAVORS
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MERGER) RESIGN, AND B) ANNOUNCING THAT IN THE FUTURE THE
"EXPLORATORY" TALKS WITH UGT WOULD BE "FORMALIZED AND
PUBLIC." THOSE FAVORING MERGER ALSO NOTE THAT THE UGT
HAS SUCCESSFULLY STAKED OUT THE GROUND RESERVED FOR
"SOCIALIST TRADE UNIONISM" IN SPAIN, AND THAT USO IS
NOT IN A POSITION TO COMPETE AS A SECONDARY SOCIALIST UNION.
ON THEIR SIDE, THE DISSIDENTS CLAIMED THAT "ALMOST 70 PERCENT"

OF THE UNION FAVOR THE RESIGNATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
AND THEY ASKED THAT AN EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS BE CONVOKED
TO SETTLE THE MERGER ISSUE.

2. IT APPEARS THAT A SERIOUS SPLIT IS IN THE MAKING WITHIN
THE USO. THE DRIFT OF USO MEMBERS TOWARDS THE UGT CAN PERHAPS
BE TRACED TO THE MOVE OF SOME TOP FPS (FEDERATION OF SOCIALIST
PARTIES) LEADERS (SUCH AS ENRIQUE BARON, NOW A PSOE DEPUTY)
TO THE PSOE PRIOR TO THE JUNE 15 GENERAL ELECTIONS.
AS REPORTED EARLIER (REFTEL), USO SECGEN ZUFIAUR AND MOST OF HIS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COLLEAGUES FAVOR MERGER - IF CERTAIN COMPROMISES
CAN BE WORKED OUT WITH THE UGT. MANUEL ZAGUIRRE (USO SECRETARY FOR
PUBLIC AND LABOR RELATIONS) CONTINUES TO BE THE RALLYING POINT FOR
THE ANTI-MERGER ELEMENTS. SOME OBSERVERS BELIEVE HE WOULD TRY TO LEAD
HIS FORCES INTO THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED WORKERS' COMMISSIONS
(SWC) SHOULD A PERMANENT SPLIT OCCUR. UGT INTERNATIONAL
SECRETARY MANUEL SIMON TOLD LABATT SEPT. 12 THAT THE UGT IS
CURRENTLY HOLDING INTERNAL DISCUSSIONS TO SEE HOW FORTHCOMING
THEY CAN BE WITH RESPECT TO VARIOUS USO PRE-CONDITIONS FOR
MERGER. THE UGT WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE DELIGHTED IF A MERGER COULD
BE PUSHED THROUGH BEFORE THE APPROACHING PLANT COMMITTEE
ELECTIONS (DEADLINE NOVEMBER 15), BUT THIS APPEARS MOST UNLIKELY
AT THIS WRITING. EATON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNIONS, BUSINESS MERGERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MADRID06770
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770331-1261
Format: TEL
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770970/aaaacheg.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: c6e37f47-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1297036
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORE ON POSSIBLE UGT-USO MERGER
TAGS: ELAB, SP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c6e37f47-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009